

Message Text

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ORIGIN PM-03

INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 SS-15 SSO-00 ISO-00 H-01 L-02 /022 R

DRAFTED BY PM/SAS:HPHELPS:RF
APPROVED BY T - CARLYLE E. MAW
H - MR. JENKINS (DRAFT)
L - MR. MICHEL (DRAFT)
S/S - REWOODS
PM - MR. VEST

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USDEL AQABA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 035320

TOSEC 319

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT:ACTION MEMORANDUM: SENATE REQUEST FOR TESTIMONY
REGARDING FMS PROGRAM, (S/S NO. 7503337) .
FROM MAW FOR SECRETARY

1. CHAIRMAN MCCLELLAN HAS WRITTEN YOU EXPRESSING THE SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE'S CONCERN WITH THE RECENT SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE IN SALES OF US WEAPONS UNDER THE FOREIGN MILITARY SALES ACT. THE COMMITTEE'S INTEREST IN THE SUBJECT HAS BEEN TRIGGERED BY NEWLY IMPOSED REQUIREMENTS FOR REPORTS TO CONGRESS OF MAJOR SALES. THE COMMITTEE WISHES TO CONDUCT A DETAILED EXAMINATION OF FMS WITH PARTICULAR EMPHASIS ON US POLICY REGARDING THE NUMBERS AND TYPES OF WEAPONS TO BE MADE AVAILABLE UNDER THE PROGRAM AND THE IMPACT OF SUCH SALES ON US MILITARY PREPAREDNESS AND FOREIGN POLICY OBJECTIVES. SENATOR MCCLELLAN INVITES YOU AND SECRETARY SCHLESINGER TO APPEAR BEFORE THE DEFENSE SUBCOMMITTEE TO DISCUSS THE SUBJECT.

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INVITATION PRESENTS US WITH A TIMELY OPPORTUNITY TO PRESENT

A MAJOR POLICY STATEMENT IN A FORUM WHICH WILL ASSURE THAT IT RECEIVES APPROPRIATE ATTENTION. WE WOULD RECOMMEND THAT YOU PRESENT A PREPARED UNCLASSIFIED STATEMENT TO OPEN YOUR

APPEARANCE AND THEN AT SOME LATER POINT WE COULD GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION IF YOU FELT THAT WAS NECESSARY. OUR CASE COULD BE MOST PERSUASIVELY MADE IF YOU AND SECRETARY SCHLESINGER WERE TO APPEAR IN PERSON. WE ARE CONFIDENT THAT SENATOR MCCLELLAN WOULD BE WILLING TO HOLD OFF THE HEARINGS UNTIL IT IS CONVENIENT FOR YOU TO DO SO -- PERHAPS AFTER YOUR SECOND MIDDLE EAST TRIP. A SECONDARY BENEFIT WOULD BE THE EXPOSURE SUCH AN APPEARANCE WOULD GIVE YOU TO THE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE ... A GROUP OF PARTICULARLY INFLUENTIAL SENATORS WITH WHOM YOU HAVE NOT HAD MUCH CONTACT. YOU SHOULD MEET WITH THE FULL COMMITTEE RATHER THAN JUST THE DEFENSE SUBCOMMITTEE AND WE BELIEVE SENATOR MCCLELLAN WOULD BE AMENABLE TO SUCH AN ADJUSTMENT. WE UNDERSTAND THAT SCHLESINGER IS INCLINED NOT TO VOLUNTEER TO TESTIFY.

3. IF YOU DO NOT WISH TO GO BEFORE THE COMMITTEE AT THIS TIME, MR. SISCO AND I (ACCOMPANIED BY AMBASSADOR ELLSWORTH FOR DOD) COULD GO, BUT WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT THIS WOULD OFFER AS GOOD A CHANCE OF WINNING SUPPORT FOR OUR POLICY AS WOULD YOUR APPEARANCE.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS: OPTION 1 - YOU AND SECRETARY SCHLESINGER TESTIFY IF HE IS AGREEABLE. APPROVE DISAPPROVE OPTION 2 - YOU TESTIFY ALONE IF SCHLESINGER PREFERS NOT TO APPEAR. APPROVE DISAPPROVE OPTION 3 - MR. SISCO, AMBASSADOR ELLSWORTH AND I TESTIFY. APPROVE DISAPPROVE
IF YOU APPROVE OPTION 1 OR 2, WE WILL ASK MCCLELLAN TO HOLD-OFF HEARING UNTIL CONVENIENT FOR YOU, E.G., AFTER YOUR SECOND MIDDLE EAST TRIP. INGERSOLL

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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